Mission

BSGU advisors strive to challenge and support students to become independent and engaged citizens who are able to take responsibility for achieving lifelong educational, personal, and career goals.

The Role of Advising

Effective advising fosters critical thinking and informed decision making which supports meaningful living in a global society. Like teaching, advising is a learning-centered process that challenges the student to:
1) clarify attainable goals,
2) create effective strategies to realize personal, academic, and career expectations,
3) foster independence and accountability that results from accessing and utilizing accurate information.

(Adapted from NACADA resources)

At BGSU, academic advising provides students with the opportunity to build a relationship with their advisors for the purpose of gaining assistance in planning their educational career, in learning the skills needed for academic success, and in learning how to access the variety of resources and services available to them on the BGSU campus.

Expected Student Learning Outcomes for the Academic Advising Experience

Through the academic advising experiences at Bowling Green State University:

- Students will demonstrate the ability to make independent and effective decisions concerning their degree and career goals.
- Students will take ownership to develop an educational plan for successfully achieving their goals and select courses each semester to progress toward fulfilling that educational plan.
- Students will demonstrate an understanding of the value of the general education requirements.
- Students will utilize the resources and services on campus to assist them in achieving their academic, personal, and career goals.
- Students will make use of referrals to campus resources as needed.
- Students will be able to accurately read and effectively utilize MyDARS Report, a degree audit, in their educational planning.
- Students will graduate in a timely manner based on their educational plan.

Advisee Responsibilities - What You Are Expected To Do

As an advisee, you have clear responsibilities in the advising partnership in order to be successful:

- Schedule regular appointments or make regular contact with advisors during each semester
- Come to each appointment prepared with questions or material for discussion
- Be an active learner by participating fully in the advising experience
- Keep a personal record of your progress toward meeting your goals
- Organize official documents in a way that enables you to access them when needed
- Complete all assignments or recommendations from your advisor
- Gather relevant decision-making information
- Clarify personal values and goals and provide advisor with accurate information regarding your interests and abilities
- Become knowledgeable about college programs, policies, and procedures
- Become your own best self-advocate
- Invest completely in the educational process and accept responsibility for decisions

Advisor Responsibilities - What You Can Expect

As an advisor, I can be expected to:

- Understand and effectively communicate the curriculum, graduation requirements, and university and college policies and procedures
- Encourage and support students as they gain the skills to develop clear and attainable educational plans
- Provide students with information about and strategies for utilizing the available resources and services on campus
- Assist students in understanding the purposes and goals of higher education and its effects on their lives and personal goals
- Monitor and accurately document students’ progress toward meeting their goals
- Be accessible for meeting with advisees via office hours for advising, telephone, e-mail, or web access
- Assist students in gaining decision making skills and in assuming responsibility for their educational plans and achievements
- Maintain confidentiality

Text/Materials:

University Catalog (bgsu.edu/catalog/)
The web-based catalog is an important resource for students and advisors. In addition to access to relevant BGSU academic policies and deadlines, the catalog provides current requirements for all BGSU majors and minors, or “checksheets”. It is the responsibility of the student to understand the information in the University Catalog.

DARS Report (available by logging into “MyBGSU”)
DARS is a system that allows students and advisors to access current information about the student’s academic record. In addition to providing a current degree audit, DARS allows the user to “shop around” for other majors in that it will compare current completed courses with proposed degrees to determine which courses would apply to the proposed major.

Advising Website (bgsu.edu/offices/offices/advising/newstudent/page107269.html)
This website is a useful resource to help students understand the purpose of advisors, how to find an advisor, the student’s responsibility as an advisee, general student success tips, and other frequently asked questions.

successNET (available by logging into “MyBGSU”)
successNET allows students to receive immediate feedback from faculty on academic performance. Advisors use the system to track meetings and to provide advice and referrals for academic and other types of assistance. For more information, visit bgsu.edu/successnet.